

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14 (*Canceled*)

- 1 Claim 15. (*Currently Amended*) A vehicle refrigerant canister with an extension for delivering
2 pressurized ~~contents of~~ refrigerant within the canister to an air conditioning unit of a vehicle, comprising:
- 3 a housing having a generally cylindrical main body with a top surface, an opening in said top
4 surface and a upstanding rim surrounding said opening;
- 5 a housing cover sealably secured to said upstanding rim to seal said opening and contain the
6 pressurized refrigerant within said housing;
- 7 a valve stem disposed through the center of said housing cover having a top portion and a
8 bottom portion, said top portion projecting upward from said housing cover;
- 9 an actuator cap having an outer peripheral surface, a top end, a bottom end, and an aperture
10 formed in said top end, said bottom end having an opening adapted for mounting onto the canister;
- 11 a depressible actuator tab disposed across said aperture and hingedly secured to said actuator
12 cap, said actuator tab having a valve stem receiving orifice for receiving said valve stem and a
13 discharge channel in fluid communication with said valve stem for delivering the pressurized ~~contents~~
14 refrigerant of said canister;

15 a threaded projection extending outward from said outer peripheral surface of said actuator
16 cap, said projection having a discharge orifice disposed along the end of the projection;
17 an actuator hinge for securing said actuator tab to said actuator cap, said actuator hinge
18 allowing said actuator tab to move freely from an unactuated position to a depressed actuated position;
19 and
20 a refrigerant charging hose removably secured to said threaded projection for delivering the
21 released ~~contents of said canister~~ refrigerant to the air conditioning unit of the vehicle, said charging
22 hose having an engaging end, a discharge end, a threaded fitting disposed on said engaging end for
23 removably attachment to said threaded projection and a disconnect fitting disposed on said discharge
24 end for engaging the air conditioning unit of the vehicle;
25 whereby said actuator tab, when depressed, contacts the valve stem ~~of the container~~ to release
26 the pressurized ~~contents~~ refrigerant of the ~~container~~ canister, the ~~contents~~ refrigerant being delivered
27 through the discharge channel and out of the discharge orifice on said projection into said charging hose
28 to be delivered to the vehicle air conditioning unit.

Claims 16-17. (*Canceled*)

1 Claim 18. (*Currently Amended*) The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the
2 pressurized ~~contents of~~ refrigerant within the canister according to claim 15, further comprising an
3 actuator cap lid secured to the said actuator cap.

1 Claim 19. (*Currently Amended*) The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the
2 pressurized ~~contents of~~ refrigerant within the canister according to claim 18, wherein said actuator cap
3 lid is secured to said actuator cap by a hinge.

1 Claim 20. (*Currently Amended*) The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the
2 pressurized ~~contents of~~ refrigerant within the canister according to claim 15, further comprising an
3 integrated locking mechanism for securing said actuator tab in the depressed actuated position, said
4 locking mechanism comprising a lock hook integrally formed in said actuator cap and an engaging hook
5 disposed along a bottom surface of said actuator tab.

1 Claim 21. (*New*) The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized refrigerant
2 within the canister according to claim 15, further comprising a plurality of finger grooves disposed on
3 a top surface of said actuator tab for providing a frictional surface.

Application No. : 10/665,213
Art Unit : 3744

Attorney Docket No. 22461.00
Confirmation No. 5730

1 Claim 22. (*New*) The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized refrigerant
2 within the canister according to claim 15, further comprising an integrated locking mechanism for
3 securing said actuator tab in the depressed actuated position, said locking mechanism comprising a lock
4 hook integrally formed in said actuator cap and an engaging hook disposed along a bottom surface of
5 said actuator tab.